

YLC Hosts Regional Trial Competition; Minority Pre-Law Conference



J. Tracy Walker, IV 1999–2000 Young Lawyers Conference President

The Young Lawyers Conference continues to implement numerous programs and projects. Among them are the recent Region III Mock Trial Competition in Roanoke, the Student Day at the General Assembly program in Richmond, the upcoming Minority Pre-Law Conference in Richmond, and a CLE program on negotiation planned for the annual meeting in June.

On February 3–5, 2000, the Young Lawyers Conference, led by Committee Chairs Lori Jones and Jimmy Robinson, hosted a regional trial competition in Roanoke. Seventeen teams from nine law schools in Virginia and the District of Columbia participated. United States District Judge James H. Michael and Justice Lawrence Koontz presided over the final rounds, when teams from Howard University and Georgetown University emerged victorious. These teams represented Region III in the National Trial Competition in Dallas, Texas in late March. More than 200 judges, lawyers and community volunteers joined to make the trial competition a success.

In late February and early March, the Young Lawyers Conference Public Education Committee, chaired by Charlotte Hodges and Shepelle Watkins-White, undertook its new “Student Day at the General Assembly” program. Six groups of middle school students from Hampton, Charles City and Richmond, accompanied by young lawyers from the Richmond area, visited the General Assembly, met with legislators, and toured the Capitol grounds. This well-received program provides an outstanding opportunity to introduce young students to their state government.

On April 8, 2000, the Young Lawyers Conference Minority Pre-Law Subcommittee, chaired by Jennifer McClellan of Richmond, hosted its annual Minority Pre-Law Conference at the University of Richmond. The conference introduced minority undergraduate students to the legal profession and provided information about the law school admissions process. It included presenta-

tions by law school admissions officers, a mock law school class, a mock trial conducted by area attorneys and judges, and a panel discussion concerning legal career opportunities

The Young Lawyers Conference is also planning for the VSB annual meeting. The conference will once again host the 5K Run in the Sun on Friday morning and a volleyball tournament on Saturday afternoon. The conference will present a CLE program on negotiation, moderated by John McCammon, on Friday afternoon, June 16, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. The panelists will include Tazewell Hubbard, David Rosenfeld and Justice John Charles Thomas.

These are just some of the many programs and activities sponsored by the Young Lawyers Conference. For more information about the Young Lawyers Conference, please contact me at McGuire, Woods, Battle & Boothe in Richmond or visit the Young Lawyers Conference Web site at www.vsb.org/sections/yl/.

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